Whereas, women play a crucial role in maintaining the financial well-being of their families by providing a significant percentage of their household incomes and, in many cases, women head their own households; and

Whereas, pay inequity results in a higher poverty rate for women, particularly in women-headed households, as evidenced by figures from the McAuley Institute which indicate that for families that are headed by a woman and have children under the age of five years, the poverty rate is an astonishing 46.4 percent; and

Whereas, women currently account for 47 percent of the labor force, and by 2005 are expected to comprise 48 percent of the labor force; and

Whereas, educated women are not exempt from pay disparity; and

Whereas, in 2001 the median weekly earnings of female full-time workers with a college degree was 72.5 percent of their male counterparts; and

Whereas, according to the United States Census Bureau March 2002 Current Population Survey, women with a master's degree on average earn less than men with a bachelor's degree: and

Whereas, the wage gap is even wider for women of color, as evidenced by a 2001 statistic that reported that African-American women earned 69 percent and Hispanic women earned 56 percent of average white male earnings; and

Whereas, the wage gap is also prevalent within minority communities, as shown by a 2002 report that African-American women earned 91 percent of what African-American men earned, and Hispanic women earned 88 percent of what Hispanic men earned; and

Whereas, even in professions in which women comprise a majority of workers, such as nursing and teaching, men earn an average of 20 percent more than women working in these same occupations; and

Whereas, according to the data analysis of over 300 jobs classifications provided by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, women are paid less in every occupational classification for which sufficient information is available; and

Whereas, the wage gap continues to affect women in their senior years as lower wages result in lower pensions and incomes after retirement, and affect a women's ability to save, thereby contributing to a higher poverty rate for elderly women; and

Whereas, the average 25-year-old woman who works full-time, year-round, is projected to earn \$523,000 less over the course of her career than the average 25-year-old man who works full-time year-round; and

Whereas, if women were paid the same as men who work the same number of hours, have the same education and same union status, are the same age, and live in the same region of the country, then the annual family income of each of these women would rise by \$4,000, and the number of families who live below the poverty line would be reduced by half. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature hereby declares April 20, 2004, to be "Equal Pay Day" in California and urges California citizens to recognize the full value and worth of women and their contributions to the California workforce; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to protect the fundamental right of all American women to receive equal pay for equal work, and to continue to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to

the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-23. A Joint Resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of California relative to hybrid electric vehicles; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 74

Whereas, the price for gasoline has reached record levels in California, climbing to an all-time high in Los Angeles and the bay area, and potentially rising even higher during the summer; and

Whereas, increasing gasoline prices can have a negative impact on California's economy because rising oil prices drive up the average cost of production of goods and services throughout the economy and reduce the real income of consumers through higher fuel prices; and

Whereas, California is susceptible to chronic price spikes in gasoline due to tight supplies of refined gasoline and a lack of competition among the companies that produce and sell gasoline; and

Whereas, California's demand for petroleum transportation fuels will continue to grow, and is expected to increase by 50 percent in the next 20 years, as the number of registered vehicles in California increases to 31.5 million by the year 2020; and

Whereas, California's refining capacity has not been able to keep up with the growing demand for transportation fuels and is increasingly dependent on the importation of foreign crude oil, much of which comes from politically unstable regions of the world; and

Whereas, this growing dependence on oil from unstable regions makes the state's economy more vulnerable to external disruptions and volatile fuel prices; and

Whereas, increasing use of petroleum fuels results in additional climate change emissions including carbon dioxide, and global climate change is projected to cause environmental and economic damage to California;

Whereas, increasing use of gasoline causes a decline in air quality, thereby adversely affecting public health; and

Whereas, the world supply of petroleum is expected to fall short of demand after the year 2020, causing the price of petroleum products to increase significantly; and

Whereas, on-road fuel economy of cars and light-duty trucks has remained relatively constant since 1985, and has actually decreased in years as consumers purchase greater percentages of sport utility vehicles; and

Whereas, most technological improvements to engines and vehicles have been used to increase performance and overcome gains in weight, rather than to improve fuel economy; and

Whereas, Californians would consume 30 percent less gasoline by 2020 if fuel efficiency in new model light-duty vehicles were doubled to at least 40 miles per gallon, and that reduction in gasoline consumption would result in increased air quality throughout the state as well as a reduction in the state's dependency on foreign sources of petroleum; and

Whereas, hybrid electric drive train technology can significantly increase vehicle fuel efficiency and, simultaneously, greatly reduce a vehicle's smog-forming emissions; and

Whereas, several vehicle models, using hybrid electric drive train technology that achieves at least 45 miles per gallon and as much as 70 miles per gallon fuel efficiency ratings, are readily available to consumers in California; and

Whereas, Californians would greatly reduce their gasoline dependence, improve their own economic condition, and significantly better the environment and public health if they were to embrace the use of hybrid electric vehicles that achieve at least 45 miles per gallon ratings; and

Whereas, the primary purpose of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes is to relieve traffic congestion by offering persons who carpool an easier commute; and

Whereas, in many instances, California's HOV lanes have excess capacity that could allow them to accommodate single-occupant hybrid electric vehicles temporarily, without degrading the HOV lanes' traffic flow or diminishing their attractiveness to carpools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the President and the Congress of the United States of America are urged to take legislative action to allow single-occupant hybrid electric vehicles that achieve a fuel economy highway rating of at least 45 miles per gallon, and conform to any additional emissions category of the federal Environmental Protection Agency or the California Air Resources Board, or meet any other requirements identified by the responsible agency, to travel in California's High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-24. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Council of Atlanta, Georgia relative to the denunciation of the actions of the Janjaweed in Sudan and urging the Sudanese government to cut its ties to the Militia responsible and demand that they disarm immediately; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-25. A resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Ferry County, State of Washington, relative to supporting county custom, culture, and heritage in decision making on federal lands in Ferry County, State of Washington; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-26. A resolution adopted by the Fleet Reserve Association, Latte Stone Branch 73, Young Men's League of Guam relative to Petitions from the People of Guam in Support of the Findings and Recommendations of the War Claims Review Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-27. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Council of Atlanta, Georgia relative to supporting the District of Columbia's right to have its elected Representative have full voting rights in the United States House of Representatives and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

S. 256. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Buddie J. Penn, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brigadier General Mark W. Anderson and ending with Colonel Carl M. Skinner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 31, 2005.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Karl W. Eikenberry to be Lieutenant General.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Brigadier General Thomas A. Benes and ending with Brigadier General Richard C. Zilmer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Colonel George J. Allen and ending with Colonel John E. Wissler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005

Navy nomination of Adm. William J. Fallon to be Admiral.

Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Robert F. Willard to be Admiral.

Navy nomination of Adm. John B. Nathman to be Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Terrance T. Etnyre to be Vice Admiral.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nomination of Thomas S. Hoffman to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Herbert L. Allen, Jr. and ending with Dale A. Jackman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Leslie G. Macrae to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Omar Billigue to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Corbert K. Ellison and ending with Gisella Y. Velez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Gretchen M. Adams to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Michael D. Shirley, Jr. to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Gerald J. Huerta and ending with Anthony T. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Michael F. Lamb to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Dean J. Cutillar and ending with An Zhu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Air Force nomination of James D. Shaffer to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Thomas William Acton and ending with Debra S. Zelenak, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 31, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Barbara S. Black and ending with Vincent T. Jones, which nominations were received by

the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Glenn T. Lunsford to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Frederick E. Jackson to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Robert G. Pate and ending with Dwayne A. Stich, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Kelly E. Nation to be Captain.

Air Force nominations beginning with Lourdes J. Almonte and ending with Robert J. Weisenberger, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brian F. Agee and ending with Lun S. Yan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Michelle D. Allenmocoy and ending with Erin Bree Wirtanen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with James R. Abbott and ending with An Zhu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Joseph B. Anderson and ending with Kondi Wong, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jeffery F. Baker and ending with David L. Wells, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Corey R. Anderson and ending with Ethan J. Yoza, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nominations beginning with Janice M. Allison and ending with Danny K. Wong, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Eloise M. Fuller to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Robert A. Lovett to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Martin Poffenberger, Jr. to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Timothy D. Mitchell, Jr. to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with William F. Bither and ending with Paul J. Ramsey, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nomination of William R. Laurence, Jr. to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Megan K. Mills and ending with Maria A. Worley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Timothy K. Adams and ending with John L. Poppe, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph W. Burckel and ending with Frank J. Miskena, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nomination of Frank J. Miskena to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Rosa L. Hollisbird and ending with Beth A. Zimmer, which nominations were received by the Sen-

ate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Bruce A. Mulkey and ending with Jerome F. Stolinski, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nomination of Matthew R. Segal to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Casanova C. Ochoa and ending with Charles R. Platt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Kenneth R. Greene and ending with William F. Roy, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with James E. Ferrando and ending with Terry R. Sopher, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Billy J. Blankenship and ending with William J. Oneill, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Mark E. Coers and ending with Richard A. Weaver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Jeffrey T. Altdorfer and ending with Joseph E. Rooney, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with David C. Barnhill and ending with Kenneth B. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nomination of David B. Enyeart to be Colonel.

Army nomination of David A. Greenwood to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Sandra W. Dittig to be Colonel.

Army nomination of John M. Owings, Jr. to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Daniel J. Butler to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Scott W. Arnold and ending with Keith C. Well, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Paul T. Bartone and ending with Jeffrey P. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Cynthia A. Chavez and ending with Jaclynn A. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6. 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Francis B. Ausband and ending with Scott A. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6. 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Loretta A. Adams and ending with Clark H. Weaver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Robert D. Akerson and ending with Beth A. Zimmer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Priscilla A. Berry and ending with Catherine E. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with George A. Abbott and ending with Donald R. Zoufal, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Jan E. Aldykiewicz and ending with Robert A. Yoh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Jason G. Adkinson and ending with James B. Zientek, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Jorge E. Cristobal and ending with Donald Q. Fincham, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8. 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Ronald C. Constance and ending with Joel F. Jones, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nomination of Frederick D. Hyden to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Kathy L. Velez to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of John R. Barclay to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Matthew J. Caffrey and ending with William R. Tiffany, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Jeff R. Bailey and ending with Julio R. Pirir, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Jacob D. Leighty III and ending with John G. Oliver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Steven M. Dotson and ending with Calvin W. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with William H. Barlow and ending with Danny R. Morales, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Andrew E. Gepp and ending with William B. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with William A. Burwell and ending with William J. Wadley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Kenrick G. Fowler and ending with Steven E. Sprout, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with James P. Miller, Jr. and ending with Marc Tarter, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nomination of David G. Boone to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Michael A. Lujan to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Michael A. Mink and ending with Louann Rickley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with John T. Curran and ending with Thomas J. Johnson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

Navy nomination of Steven P. Davito to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Edward S. Wagner, Jr. to be Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Samuel Adams and ending with Randy J. Vanrossum, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2005.

Navy nominations beginning with Jason K. Brandt and ending with Ronald L. Withrow, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 31, 2005.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 413. A bill to amend the definition of disaster, for purposes of section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business Act, to include below average water levels in the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. McCONNELL (for himself and Mr. Bond):

S. 414. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to protect the right of Americans to vote through the prevention of voter fraud, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 415. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct research on indicators of child wellbeing; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 416. A bill to establish a pilot program to provide low interest loans to nonprofit, community-based lending intermediaries, to provide midsize loans to small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 417. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable wage differential credit for activated military reservists; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 418. A bill to protect members of the Armed Forces from unscrupulous practices regarding sales of insurance, financial, and investment products; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KYL:

S. 419. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the treatment of qualified restaurant property as 15-year property for purposes of the depreciation deduction; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KYL (for himself, Mr. Nelson of Florida, Mr. Allard, Mr. Allen, Mr. Burns, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Talent, and Mr. Thune): S. 420. A bill to make the repeal of the estate tax permanent; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 421. A bill to reauthorize programs relating to sport fishing and recreational boating safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 422. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore equity and complete the transfer of motor fuel excise taxes attributable to motorboat and small engine fuels into the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 423. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make a stillborn child an insurable dependent for purposes of the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. Ken-NEDY, Mr. TALENT, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 424. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 425. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange certain National Forest System land in the State of Vermont; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 426. A bill to enhance national security by improving the reliability of the United States electricity transmission grid, to ensure efficient, reliable and affordable energy to American consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. REED, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 427. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to provide for a Federal renewable portfolio standard; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DAYTON, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 428. A bill to provide \$30,000,000,000 in new transportation infrastructure funding in addition to TEA-21 levels through bonding to empower States and local governments to complete significant long-term capital improvement projects for highways, public transportation systems, and rail systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. Dodd, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Kerry): 429. A bill to establish the Upper

Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 430. A bill to arrest methamphetamine abuse in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):